

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-02 CU-02

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DRAFTED BY ARA/BC:JEKARKASHIAN:NG

APPROVED BY ARA/BC:JEKARKASHIAN

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P 192137Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 037446

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, PFOR, US, SCUL

SUBJECT: ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL

REF: SANTIAGO 1039

1. COUNTRY DIRECTOR CALLED FATHER LEWERS AND RELATED SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL. LEWERS SAID HE HAD NOT HEARD FROM FATHER DONOSO BUT HE DID NOT THINK THAT CIRCUMSTANCES AS DESCRIBED WARRANTED HOLY CROSS REQUEST FOR FORMAL USG "INTERVENTION" AT THIS TIME.

2. LEWERS SAID CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE DEMONSTRATED BY PRESIDENT PINOCHET AT FEBRUARY 10 MEETING AND SUBSEQUENT HARD LINE BY EDUCATION MINISTRY WAS FAMILIAR PATTERN. LEWERS RECALLED SIMILAR EXPERIENCE IN JANUARY MEETING WITH PINOCHET WHOSE GENIALITY WAS BRUSQUELY UNDONE BY EDUCATION MINISTRY MEMORANDUM NEXT DAY REITERATING EARLIER "UNCOMPRO-MISING" POSITION. LEWERS SUGGESTED THAT SINCE FOREIGN MINISTER CARVAJAL HAD INDICATED DESIRE TO BE HELPFUL, HE WOULD APPRECIATE EXPRESSION OF USG CONCERN BY AMBASSADOR POPPER TO CARVAJAL THAT POSITIVE NOTE EVIDENCED AT
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FEBRUARY 10 MEETING WAS BEING UNDERCUT BY EDUCATION

MINISTRY.

3. LEWERS SAID HE KNEW PHILIPPI ONLY BY REPUTATION WHICH WAS EXCELLENT. HE SAID IT ALSO WOULD BE USEFUL IF EMBASSY WOULD CONTACT PHILIPPI DIRECTLY TO INFORMALLY INQUIRE ABOUT STATUS OF TALKS AND INDICATE OUR CONTINUING STRONG INTEREST IN THE EARLY AND SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM. LEWERS OBSERVED THAT EDUCATION MINISTRY MIGHT BE ENGAGED IN DELAYING TACTICS IN ORDER TO ALLOW ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR TO BEGIN WITH SCHOOL STILL UNDER GOC CONTROL.

4. REQUEST THAT APPROPRIATE APPROACHES ALONG LINES INDICATED ABOVE BE MADE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY AND PHILIPPI. KISSINGER

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